

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 096756

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R 252315Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096756

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM QUITO DATED APRIL 24, 1975 SENT SECSTATE
WASHDC INFO GUAYAQUIL IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2814

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, EC

SUBJ: US FISHING VESSEL A.K. STROM

1. CONGEN GUAYAQUIL REPORTS HAVING BEEN TOLD, IN CONVERSATION
WITH ECUADOREAN NAVY LT. PEDRO CABEZAS, CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF OCEAN SCIENCES, THAT THE A.K. STROM HAD BEEN SIGHTED BY
LOCAL FISHERMEN FISHING 25 MILES OFF OF SALINAS. CABEZAS
ADDED THAT SOMETIME IN RECENT WEEKS THE STROM HAD BEEN ASKED
BY GOE AUTHORITIES TO SEND OUT A SPOTTER PLANE TO HELP SEARCH
FOR AN ECUADOREAN SEAMAN WHO HAD DISAPPEARED FROM AN ECUADOREAN
SHIP. ACCORDING TO CABEZAS, STROM HAD BEEN UNABLE TO COMPLY.

2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT A.K. STROM, AT 735 NET
REGISTERED TONS, DID NOT QUALIFY FOR ECUADOREAN FISHING
LICENSE AND WAS EXPELLED FROM ECUADOREAN WATERS AFTER HAVING
BEEN SEIZED ON FEBRUARY 1, 1975, AND IT'S CATCH CONFISCATED.
SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTURE, STROM' CAPTAIN (DAVID RICO) TOLD
US HE WAS LEAVING ECUADOREAN WATERS AND WOULD PROBABLY HEAD
FOR FISHING GROUNDS OFF AFRICAN COAST.

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PAGE 02 STATE 096756

3. IN VIEW OF THE POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE A.K.

STROM FISHING IN ECUADOREAN WATERS WITH GOE KNOWLEDGE
(IF TRUE), EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE WORTH CHECKING
WITH SAN DIEGO INDUSTRY SOURCES TO DETERMINE LOCATION
OF A.K. STROM. PLEASE REPORT FINDINGS.
HEMENWAY UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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NNN

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